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DE RUEHMD #2094 3170915
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3776
INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0895
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE PRIORITY 0146

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 002094

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EUR/RUS FOR HOWARD SOLOMON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/13/2017
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [KDEM](#) [RS](#) [SP](#)
SUBJECT: SPANISH SHARE U.S. CONCERNS ABOUT ODIHR MISSION TO
RUSSIA

REF: A. STATE 153309

[1](#)B. MADRID 2046

[1](#)C. STATE 150674

Classified By: DCM Hugo Llorens for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

(C) Poloff delivered ref A points to Spanish OSCE desk officer for ODIHR and the Human Dimension Enrique Asorey on November 8. Asorey said that Spain completely agrees with the U.S. position and continues to support the fundamental position that Russia should not set preconditions on ODIHR observers, either in the Duma elections or for the upcoming presidential elections. Asorey referenced conversations between Assistant Secretary Fried and Director General Pepe Pons (ref B) and between the Secretary and Foreign Minister Moratinos (ref C) in which Pons and Moratinos clearly established the Chair-in-Office's position on the issue. Asorey said he was hopeful that the mission would go forward and that the Russians would not drag their feet in issuing visas, but he said that if ODIHR were to decide that a proper mission could not be mounted due to Russian stalling, Spain would support the institutional decision one way or the other. AGUIRRE